

AC 4424 (3)

~~244~~ ~~Shannon~~ 173
2 Library

M A R L O W
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
A N D O F T H E
C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R
1960



M A R L O W
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1960

Medical Officer of Health
A.J.Muir, M.B., Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Also Medical Officer of Health, Wycombe Rural District &
High Wycombe Borough, Area & Divisional School Medical
Officer, Buckinghamshire County Council.
Main Address:- Municipal Health Centre, High Wycombe
Tel. H.W.4031. Home Tel.H.W.1338

Deputy Medical Officer of Health
T.E.Roberts, M.B., B.S., D.(Obst.) R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Also Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Wycombe Rural Dist.
and High Wycombe Borough; Assistant Medical Officer of
Health and School Medical Officer, Buckinghamshire C.C.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector
T.H.Jackson, F.F.S., F.R.S.A., M.R.S.H., M.I.P.H.E.

Deputy Surveyor: B. Bates, A.F.S., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Public Health Inspector: G.S.Wright, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk/Technical Assistant: K.Patterson

Clerk/Secretary: Mrs. M.D.Barton

General Foreman: J. Ketley



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29791728>

28, High Street
High Wycombe,
Bucks.

September, 1961

To the Chairman and Members of
Marlow Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for 1960 - the eighth I have presented.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population in mid 1960 was 8160 an increase of 460 on the previous year. This increase was made up by 84 excess births over deaths and by inward migration (476).

In 1960 there were 182 live births an increase of 25 over the previous year. This gives a Birth Rate of 22.3 per 1,000 of the population - the corresponding figure for England and Wales being 17.1 per 1,000.

98 deaths took place during 1960 an increase of 25. 50 deaths were due to diseases of the heart and circulation, cancer accounted for 24 and respiratory diseases 9. It is noteworthy that lung cancer accounted for 11 deaths. Surgical treatment of this is successful in very few cases and as the disease mostly affects smokers it would appear that this problem should be tackled by preventive measures rather than by mass radiography and other schemes for early diagnosis.

There were three deaths of infants under one year - the same as in the previous year when there were 25 fewer births. The infantile mortality rate fell from 19.10 to 16.5 per 1,000 - the National figure being 21.7.

It is noteworthy that no case of notifiable infectious disease was recorded during the year - an exceptional state of affairs which cannot be expected to occur very often.

With such a record one must conclude that 1960 was a healthy one and it is not claiming too much to state that the preventive medical services played an important role in achieving this.

My thanks are due to Mr. Jackson and his staff
for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A.J.MUIR

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS

Area in acres	1,664
Registrar General's Estimate of population mid-1960.	8,160
No. of inhabited houses on rate book, end of 1960...	2,690
Rateable Value as at 31st December 1960	£124,452
Estimated Product of Penny Rate - March 1961	£519

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Number	182
Rate per 1,000 population	22.3
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	2.74

Still births

Number	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births.	5.46

Total Live and Still Births	183
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	3

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births.	16.48
Legitimate " " " " legitimate live births.....	16.94
Illegitimate " " "illegitimate live births.....	0.

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....	16.5
---	------

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).....	5.49
--	------

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live & still births)	
--	--

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of deaths	0
Rate per 1,000 total live & still births	0

DEATHS

Number of Deaths	Males	55
	Females	<u>43</u>
		<u>98</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Population .		12.0
Comparability Factor		1.06
Adjusted Local Death Rate		12.72
Death Rate of England and Wales		11.5
Tuberculosis Death Rate, Marlow Urban District ...		0
Tuberculosis Death Rate, Total County		0.05

INFANT MORTALITY

3 Infants under the age of one year died.

This represents a mortality rate of 16.5 per 1,000 related births, compared with 21.7 as a general figure for England and Wales.

Neo-natal mortality rate - 16.5 compared with a county rate of 15.7

MATERNAL DEATHS

- (a) From puerperal sepsis 0
- (b) From other maternal causes 0

TABLE OF DEATHS

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	0	0	0
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	0	0	0
3. Syphilitic diseases	0	0	0
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections ...	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other Infectious Diseases ...	0	0	0
10. Cancer, Stomach	0	0	0
11. Cancer, Lungs	10	1	11
12. Cancer, Breast	0	1	1
13. Cancer, Uterus	0	2	2
14. Other cancers	5	5	10
15. Leukemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0
16. Diabetes	1	0	1
17. Vascular lesions, nervous system	3	8	11
18. Coronary disease, angina	8	5	13
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	1	0	1
20. Other heart diseases.....	10	14	24
21. Other circulatory diseases... 1		0	1
22. Influenza.....	0	0	0
23. Pneumonia.....	4	0	4
24. Bronchitis	4	1	5
25. Other respiratory diseases... 0		0	0
26. Gastric & Duedenal ulcer 0		0	0
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	0	0	0
28. Nephritis & nephrosis	0	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostrate 1		0	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	0	0	0

TABLE OF DEATHS (cont'd)

<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total</u>
31. Congenital malformations	2	0	2
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	5	4	9
33. Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0
34. Other accidents	0	2	2
35. Suicide	0	0	0
36. Homicide & operations of war.....	0	0	0
All causes	55	44	99

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and still)
births

England &
Wales

Marlow Urban
District

(a) Maternal causes excluding abortion		0
(b) Due to abortion.....		0
(c) Total maternal mortality....	0.39	0

CANCER DEATHS

Deaths from Cancer (all ages):-

Males	15
Females	<u>9</u>
	<u>24</u>

Yearly comparison of cancer deaths:-

1960	24
1959	17
1958	12
1957	10
1956	14
1955	16
1954	16
1953	14
1952	10

The following organs were affected:-

Stomach	-
Lungs	11
Breast	1
Uterus	2
Other Sites	<u>10</u>
	<u>24</u>

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS

Tuberculosis Death Rate (All cases)	0.00
Total Deaths - Respiratory Tuberculosis.....	0.00
Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.00
Total Deaths - Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis...	0.00
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.00
Total Deaths - Respiratory (Excluding Tuberculosis)	9.
Respiratory Death Rate (Excluding Tuberculosis)	.91

POPULATIONS, BIRTH AND MORTALITY RATES FOR THE YEAR 1960

District	Population Census 1951	Registrar General estimated Population Mid- 1960	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Popula- tion	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Popula- tion	Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	Neo-Natal Mortal- ity Rate per 1,000 Births	Maternal Mortal- ity per 1,000 live & still births.
Bucks County	386,291	469,210	18.6	9.7	0.05	19.8	15.7	0.11
Total Urban	193,231	228,830	19.1	9.7	0.05	21.1	16.5	0.23
Total Rural	193,060	240,380	18.2	9.7	0.05	18.5	14.8	0.00
Marlow Urban	6,481	8,160	22.3	12.0	0.00	16.5	16.5	0.00
England and Wales			17.1	11.5	0.075	21.7	15.8	0.39

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

In 1960 121 children were vaccinated against diphtheria, 136 against whooping cough and 43 against tetanus. A large proportion of the immunisations was done at the Health Centre and almost all were done separately for the three diseases.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

155 vaccinations against smallpox were performed locally - 150 of these being in respect of infants under 1 year old. This is a very high proportion of the total births, over 85%, and this must be put down to the facilities made available at the Health Centre and to the efforts made by the local Health visiting Staff.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

During the year regular sessions were held and there was a good response from the public. It is impossible to give figures for each Sanitary District but for the whole Wycombe area of which Marlow is part 35,455 injections were given or roughly 700 per week.

VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

As in previous years children in the 13th year age group were selected for testing and vaccination where necessary. In the area of the Wycombe Divisional Executive 1,620 children were tested and 1,483 (91.5%) were found negative and had to be vaccinated.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1960

Two new female respiratory cases were notified during 1960, one under 5 years of age and one in the age group between 15 and 25 years of age. There were no non-respiratory new cases and no deaths during the year from respiratory or non-respiratory causes.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

There has been no change in the ambulance arrangements for the district. The ambulance station serving the area is situated in High Wycombe. All vehicles are under radio control.

HOSPITALS

The nearest hospitals are situated at Taplow, Windsor, Reading, Maidenhead and High Wycombe. The Marlow Cottage Hospital is in the town and caters for certain types of patients.

As London is comparatively near facilities are also available at the various Metropolitan hospitals.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Stoke Mandeville or Maidenhead Isolation Hospitals.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 - No formal action.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The facilities provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford are available for the Officers of the Council.

WATER SUPPLIES

The water supply of the district comes from deep wells owned by the Bucks Water Board. The supply is adequate and samples are taken regularly for bacteriological examination.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

Council Offices,
Court Garden,
Marlow

To the Chairman and Members of
Marlow Urban District Council.

Mr.Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I submit my annual report for the year 1960 with that
of the Medical Officer of Health.

I take this opportunity of thanking all members for
their advice and guidance on many matters, and in
particular for their continued attack on slum clearance.

I also wish to express my thanks to the Council's
Officers and men on my staff for their loyal and
energetic work; to the Medical Officer for his advice and
support, and to the Clerk and Financial Officer for their
usual co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. H. JACKSON

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

<u>Nature of Visit</u>	<u>No. of Visits</u>
------------------------	----------------------

1. GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supplies	5
Drainage	21
Infectious Disease enquiries and revisits.	13
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	40
Temporary Buildings	5
Petroleum Installations	57
Refuse Collection	23
Refuse Disposal	70
Sewage Disposal Works.. . . .	5
Building Byelaw Sites.. . . .	53
Pest Control (i) Rats and Mice	70
(ii) Insect Pests	46
Bathing Place and Paddling Pool	4
Camping Site	4
Places of Entertainment...	2
Ditches, Watercourses, etc.	3
Factories	39
Atmospheric Pollution	22
Shops	55
Marine Stores	3
Miscellaneous Public Health Visits	36

2. HOUSING

	<u>No. of Houses Inspected</u>	
Public Health Act 1936	35.. . . .	89
Housing Act 1957	40... . .	72
Council House Inspections		79
Council Houses - Improvements in Progress.		139
Council Houses - Miscellaneous Visits . . .		150
Overcrowding		1
Moveable Dwellings		20
Improvement Grants		3
Rent Act 1957		60

HOUSING ACT 1957

Following a public inquiry in January, the Ministry duly confirmed the Council's compulsory purchase order in respect of 30 houses in Queens Road; rehousing is now in progress.

The table below gives details of further action under the Housing Act during 1960. The figures in sections (1), (6) and (7) relate to individual unfit houses, and the 14 houses shown in section (8) were the last outstanding from earlier clearance areas.

ARTICLE 31, HOUSING CONSOLIDATED REGULATIONS, 1925

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation | 8 |
| (2) | The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer | nil |
| (3) | The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to - | |
| | (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works | nil |
| | (b) the making of demolition or closing orders. | 8 |
| (4) | The number of notices served requiring the execution of works | nil |
| (5) | The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices | nil |
| (6) | The number of demolition or closing orders made. | 6 |
| (7) | The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (4) of Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957 | 2 |
| (8) | The number of houses demolished | 14 |

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDING BYELAWS

All complaints received during the year have been investigated, and when coming within the scope of the Public Health Act or other legislation administered by the Department, have been appropriately dealt with by the Council's public health inspectors, whose journals and records have been completed accordingly.

One hundred and fifty-six plans deposited for approval under the Council's Building Byelaws were dealt with during the year, the sites and construction of the properties inspected, and sewer connections and drainage work supervised and tested.

One hundred and forty-four applications under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, were received and dealt with as follows, all maps and records being kept up to date accordingly. -

Approved	36
Conditionally Approved	64
Refused	25
Withdrawn	6
Deferred	6
Permitted Development	7

144

One hundred and forty-nine private houses have been completed during the year, eight more than in 1959.

PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS

The revised code of regulations agreed by Buckinghamshire licensing authorities was brought into force in April. An unusual installation licensed during the year was that of a lighter-fuel storage and filling plant at a local factory, necessitating special additional precautionary measures. The ready acceptance, by the management concerned, of their responsibility for the protection of premises and staff, and the rare enthusiasm and alacrity with which the required safety measures were put into effect, remain among the pleasing memories of the year's work.

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED

(i) INFORMAL NOTICES

	<u>Served</u>	<u>Complied</u>	<u>Not Complied</u>	<u>In Progress</u>
Public Health Act 1936	17	8	9	-
Food & Drugs Act & Food Hygiene Regu- lations 1955/60	16	12	4	2
Shops Act 1950	1	-	1	-
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949	11	8	3	-
Clean Air Act 1956	4	4	-	-

(ii) FORMAL NOTICES

Public Health Act 1936 - Section 93	9	4	5	2
Section 83	1	-	-	1
Housing Act 1957	8	1	-	7
Rent Act 1957	3	-	-	-

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS
(Continued)

3. FOOD PREMISES

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No. in District</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Slaughterhouse	1	617
Butchers' Shops	7	32
Preserved Food Premises	12	27
Restaurants	11	32
Ice Cream Premises	21	42
Bakehouses	2	7
Milk Distributor	1	7
Licensed Premises	22	22
Food Vendors, including -		
Grocers and General Stores	} . . . 40	42
Greengrocers and Fruiterers		
Fishmongers and Poulterers		
Street Vendors and Hawkers		
Confectioners, etc.		
Visits re Condemnations		24
Miscellaneous Food Visits		10

4. SAMPLING

Milk Samples	5
Ice Cream Samples	11
Water Samples	10
Miscellaneous Sampling Visits.	10

CONDEMNATION OF UNSOUND FOODS

(1) Meat at Marlow Slaughterhouse

Whole Carcasses and Carcase Meat:
1,020 lbs Beef, 186 lbs. Veal; 158 lbs. Mutton, 540 lbs. Pork

Offal: 2,548 lbs.

(2) Miscellaneous Foodstuffs

489 lbs. Beef,
18 lbs 12 oz. Corned Beef,
25 lbs Miscellaneous Beef Products,
182 lbs. Pork,
24 lbs. Pork Luncheon Meat,
45½ lbs Miscellaneous Pork Products,
162 lbs. Lamb,
7 lbs. Veal,
5 lbs. Miscellaneous Meat Products.

Miscellaneous Frozen Fish Packages etc., including-
8 lbs. 3 ozs. Salmon,
6 lbs. 2 oz. Prawns,
3 Lobsters,
4 Scampi,
3 Dressed Crab, 19 Shrimp, 6 Escallops,
22 Miscellaneous Fish Products.

21 Chickens,
6 Whole Tinned Chickens,
14 lbs. Miscellaneous Chicken Products,
7 lbs. 5 oz. Frozen Vegetable Packs,
39 Miscellaneous Pastries,
15 x 15 oz. Tins Pineapple Chunks,
19 lbs. American Gums.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION

The table on the following page shows details of animals killed and inspected at Marlow slaughterhouse during 1960. The figures for cattle and calves show an increase of more than fifty per cent over the previous year's totals, while the number of pigs slaughtered declined by about a fifth; the figure for sheep shows little variation.

Credit must be given to the slaughterhouse proprietor and his staff for their continued co-operation with regard to the public health aspects of their business. It is worthy of note that at this private slaughterhouse week-end and bank holiday slaughtering is considered both unnecessary and undesirable, although a certain amount of unavoidable overtime occurs during the week. Meat inspection duties are smoothly and efficiently carried out by the Assistant Public Health Inspector.

The figures show the two main single causes of unsoundness to have been Tuberculosis in pigs - 81 heads being condemned - and parasitic conditions, particularly *Cysticercus Bovis* in cattle; of the 28 carcasses effected with this condition, the majority were found to contain only a single degenerated cyst, but in 12 cases detention in cold storage was considered necessary. One suspected case of Foot-and-Mouth Disease was reported to the Ministry, but this fortunately proved to be a false alarm.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958

The Council's report on slaughtering requirements and facilities was submitted to the Minister at the beginning of the year, but at the end of 1960 the future of Marlow slaughterhouse remained undecided. The owner's proposals for improvements to bring the premises up to the standard required by the Hygiene Regulations having been rejected by the Town Planning Authority, all parties were obliged to await the result of his appeal to the Minister, a public inquiry being fixed for February, 1961.

MEAT INSPECTION AND CONDEMNATIONS

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	756	295	556	2145	1677
Number inspected	756	295	556	2145	1677
ALL DISEASES & CAUSES except Tuberculosis & Parasites -					
(a) Whole carcasses con- demned	2	-	5	4	3
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	44	37	2	7	40
(c) Percentage of the total number ins- pected affected	6.1	12.6	1.3	0.5	2.6
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY -					
(a) Whole carcasses con- demned	-	1	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	-	-	81
(c) Percentage of the number inspected affec- ted with Tuberculosis	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	4.8
CYSTICERCOSIS -					
(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	23	5	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses submitted to treatment by refriger- ation	10	2	-	-	-
(c) Generalised infesta- tion, carcasses total- ly condemned	-	-	-	-	-
ALL OTHER PARASITIC CAUSES					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned-		-	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	21	12	-	44	40
Percentage of number inspec- ted affected by Parasites	5.4	5.8	0.0	2.0	2.4

FACTORIES

Routine inspections of factory premises including 'means of escape' inspections, were carried on until December, when the latter function was transferred to the County Fire Brigade under the 1959 Factory Act.

SHOPS

55 Shops Act inspections were carried out during the year, often in conjunction with inspections of food premises, etc.

In the single case where sanitary accommodation was found to be unsatisfactory, improvements have been agreed, but cannot be put in hand until the question of alterations to the slaughterhouse, to which the shop is attached, has been concluded.

MILK SUPPLIES

Milk distribution premises in the district have been regularly inspected, and a satisfactory standard maintained. In October the responsibility for the issue of dealers' licences was transferred to the Food and Drugs Authority (Bucks. County Council) in accordance with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.

RODENT CONTROL

The table on the following page shows the degree of rodent infestation in the area and details of treatments carried out. 194 properties were treated and 134 bodies recovered. Insect pests dealt with during the year included wasps, flies, mosquitoes, woodworm, bedbugs (an isolated case), cockroaches, earwigs and ants.

The bulk of the work, including the destruction of 81 wasps' nests, and well over 1,000 rodent control visits, was carried out by the Council's rodent operator, Mr. W. Illsley, in his usual efficient manner.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			All other including Business & Industrial Premises	TOTAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural		
I Total Number of properties in Local Authority's District	4	2577	1	407	2989
II No. of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1960 as a result of -					
(a) notification	1	138	nil	26	165
(b) survey under the Act	1	42	nil	6	49
(c) otherwise	nil	2	nil	nil	2
III No. of properties (under II) found to be infested by RATS -					
(a) Major	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
(b) Minor	2	146	nil	22	170
IV No. of properties (under II) found to be infested by MICE -					
(a) Major	nil	1	nil	nil	1
(b) Minor	nil	17	nil	6	23
V No. of infested properties (under III & IV) treated by the Local Authority.	2	164	nil	28	194
VI No. of notices served under Section 4 -					
(1) Treatment	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

SAMPLING - All milk, ice cream, and water supply samples taken during the year proved to be satisfactory.

The one house in the district known to have an unsatisfactory water supply (as a result of samples taken during the previous year) was closed under the Housing Act, and the occupants rehoused.

RIVER THAMES - Bathing Place and Paddling Pool

Samples were collected from Marlow Bathing Place situated in a back-water below the weir, and the riverside paddling pool, with results as shown below:

(i) indicates probable number of coliform bacteria per millimetre;

(ii) indicates probable number of B.Coli Type I per millimetre.

		<u>9.6.60.</u>	<u>20.6.60</u>	<u>30.6.60.</u>	<u>6.7.60</u>
<u>Bathing Place</u>	(i)	350 (inlet)	9,000	55,000	
		900 (outlet)			
	(ii)	130 (inlet)	2,500	900	
		225 (outlet)			
<u>Paddling Pool</u>	(i)			900	
	(ii)			350	
<u>Main Stream</u>					
<u>below weir</u>	(i)			5,500	
	(ii)			300	
<u>above weir</u>	(i)				17,000
	(ii)				350

In June the Education Authority cancelled organised schools swimming at the bathing place on the grounds that the hygienic standards of river water at Marlow were unsatisfactory, a decision attended by a certain amount of publicity in the Press and on Television.

A subsequent Thames Conservancy report stated that, "whilst the Thames, or other similar river, cannot be made really safe for bathing - only sterilised water would be absolutely safe - Thames water today is no less fit for bathing than it has been in the past, and no evidence has yet been produced that polio or any other disease has been contracted by bathing in the Thames."

A qualified attendant and life saver is on duty at the bathing place throughout the season, and it seems reasonable to suggest that, in the absence of other swimming facilities in the district, the bathing place serves a worthwhile purpose as a protected alternative to unsupervised swimming in possibly more dangerous parts of the river.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

(a) Collection

A once weekly collection is maintained throughout the town and a regular twice weekly trade refuse collection operates in the centre of the town.

(b) Disposal

Controlled tipping was continued at the new Sandygates site, although it was considered necessary to revert to the old Sewage Disposal Works tip during a prolonged hot, dry spell in the early part of the year, in order to remove any apparent source of offence to neighbouring residents. (The Sandygates tip is unavoidably close to local housing development, and was inevitably blamed for nuisance from flies, affecting that part of the district, although in fact the infestation was traced to other sources.)

It is expected that the tipping space at Sandygates will be exhausted in little more than another year, and further sites are being investigated, although it is very difficult to find spare land in Marlow for this or any other purpose.

(c) Salvage Collection

The following figures represent salvage collection and receipts for the year:-

	tons.	cwt.	lb.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper	9	11	28	51.	10.	3.
Scrap Iron	4	2	84	24.	16.	6.

COUNCIL HOUSING

The preparation of plans, layout and design of housing estates and Council housing is the responsibility of the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector and progress during the year has been as follows:-

(a) New Sites

New estate works were completed and 17 old persons' bungalows and 8 flats have been completed and occupied during the period.

(b) Maintenance of Council Houses

The Council's programme of improvements to their pre-war houses was commenced during the year, the works to be carried out including provision of bathrooms, food stores, hot water supply, washbasins, coal-bunkers and additional cupboard space and formica working surfaces; installation of new sink units, baths. W.C. suites, tiled fire surrounds with all-night burners, and new windows and doors where necessary; complete electrical re-wiring, with additional lighting and power points; redecoration of all rooms passages etc. involved; and new floor tiling, principally in kitchens and bathrooms.

Work on the first batch of 30 houses began in August and was completed early in December, at an average cost of £300 per house. Preparatory work was concluded on a further 38 houses, and site works are to commence in the new year.

(c) Slum Clearance

The Queens Road compulsory purchase order, covering 30 houses, was approved by the Minister following a public inquiry in January, and rehousing is in progress.

Demolition orders were made in respect of six houses, and in two further cases undertakings were accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Maintenance to vehicles is carried out on a daily, weekly and monthly basis, and the appropriate records kept.

DEPOTS AND STORES

Continued minor improvements and maintenance works have been carried out to the Council's various garages and depot stores, as available funds have permitted.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND HOUSE DRAINAGE

Good effluents to the satisfaction of the Thames Conservancy have been regularly maintained, and a defective length of sewer normally below the water table has been repaired. Further improvements to the works, including insulation of comminutor, and other small items, have been completed, and they are working satisfactorily.

Maximum discharge	935,600 gallons
Minimum discharge	237,000 gallons

The heavy rainfall has produced a situation which cannot be tolerated in future years. Heavy surcharging has caused sewage stoppages and overflowing. Storm water reservoirs should be provided during the following year as the local discharging of surplus over this land cannot be repeated.

RAINFALL

Rainfall figures for the year are as follows:

January	2.465	ins.
February	2.580	"
March	1.085	"
April	0.605	"
May	1.615	"
June	1.635	"
July	3.145	"
August	3.310	"
September	3.760	"
October	5.720	"
November	4.150	"
December	2.650	"

The highest single day's rainfall was 1.03 inches on the 27th August - lower than the 1959 maximum of 1.11 inches on July 11th. It may be noted, however, that the rainfall recorded during the last six months of 1960 (22.735 inches) was greater than the total for the whole of 1959 (22.440 inches).

ADMINISTRATION

The following two pages show the many various responsibilities of the Council and their Officers in this Department.

In connection with the outside working staff, the continual loss to higher paid local industry prevents any improvement to routine amenity services, and at times it is difficult to deal with the statutory requirements of a weekly refuse collection, although it is seldom that complaints are made about this service.

From information received from men who have left the Council's service, it appears that the difference in the weekly wage packet when going into local industry is between £3 and £4.

Whilst it is no doubt a wise policy on the part of employers to try to curb the spiral of inflation through wage increases, the above-mentioned facts should be made quite clear to ratepayers. It is not generally appreciated, to take for instance the problem of hand road and pavement sweeping, that if the one man who normally does this work is away - there is therefore an immediate 100% deficiency to that particular service.

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ADDITIONAL
PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

Inspections re:

GENERAL FOREMAN

CLERK/
SECRETARY

Health Centre	<u>P.H. Acts</u>	Highways	Secretarial
	Infectious	Scavenging	Specifica-
	Diseases	Repair	tions
Maternity	Building Bye-	Snow	Bills of
	laws	New Roads	Quantities
Child Welfare	Caravans	Public Foot-	Committee
	Temporary	paths &	Reports
Infectious	Buildings.	Towpaths	Property
Diseases	Refuse Disposal		Filing.
	& Collection	Sewerage	Planning
Aged & Infirm	Sewerage	Refuse	Consents
Persons	Public Con-	Collection	Records-
	veniences	Disposal	Street
Water Supplies	Nuisances &	Pleasure	Lighting
	Complaints	Grounds.	New Houses
Milk Supplies	<u>Housing Acts</u>	Open Spaces	Complaints
	Slum Clearance	Grass Verges	Telephone
Food Supplies	Overcrowding	Ornamental Trees	Duty.
	Houses -let-	Memorial Enclo-	
Swimming Pool	in-Lodgings.	sure	
	Council House	Council House	
School Health	Inspections	Maintenance	
Service	Certificates	Depot.	
	of Disrepair	Vehicles.	
Vaccination	<u>Food & Drugs</u>	Public Conveniences	
	<u>Food Hygiene</u>	Stores	
	Meat Inspec-	Allotments	
	tion	Car Parks	
Immunisation	Slaughterhouse		
	Report & Reg-	<u>Staff</u> -	<u>S.D. WORKS MANAGER</u>
Mental	ulations.		S.D. Works
Deficiency	Sampling -Milk		Pumping Station
	Ice Cream		<u>CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT</u>
Physically	Water		<u>SWIMMING POOL ATTENDANT</u>
Handicapped	Milk Regulations		<u>CARETAKER</u>
Children			Court Garden
	Clean Air Act		Public Hall
	Shops Act		
	Rodent Control		
	Disinfestations		
	Factories Act		
	Means of Escape from Fire		
	Petroleum Acts		
	Pet Animals Act		
	Hairdressers		
	Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare) Act.		

AND SURVEYOR

				DEPUTY SURVEYOR			
				CLERK/HOUSING INSPECTOR	MARLOW U.D.C. ADMINISTRATION	GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS	PUBLIC UTILITIES
				Town Planning	Sanitary circum-	Ministry of	Water Co.
				Building	stances &	Health	
				Byelaws	P.H.Act		
				Wages	Housing Acts	Ministry of	(a)supplies
				Council House	Public Highways	Transport	(b)street
				Inspections	" Footpaths		works
				<u>Records</u>	Street Lighting	Ministry of	
					Scavanging	Agriculture	<u>Southern</u>
					Refuse Collection	Fisheries &	<u>Electricity</u>
					" Disposal	Food	<u>Board</u>
				Town & Country	Slaughterhouse		
				Planning	Shops Act	Home Office	(a)supplies
				Byelaws	Food Inspection		(b)street
				House Drainage	Swimming Pool	Ministry of	works
				Vehicles	Open Spaces &	Housing	(c)street
				Public	Playing Fields	& Local	lighting
				Conveniences	Cemetery	Government	
				Car Parks	Car Parks		<u>North Thames</u>
				Highways	Public Hall		<u>Gas Board</u>
				Street Naming	Sewerage	<u>Bucks County</u>	
				" Numbers	Sewage Disposal	<u>Council</u>	(a)supplies
					Works.		(b)street
				<u>Stores</u>	Civil Defence	Health	works
					Petroleum Acts		
				Orders	Private St.Works.	Planning	<u>Post Office</u>
				Completion	Disinfection		<u>Telegraphs</u>
				Accounts	Rodent Control	Fire	
					Town Planning.		Street
				Complaints	Building Byelaws.	Civil Defence	Works
					Council Houses-	Highways	
					Estate Layout	<u>TOWN EVENTS</u>	
					Design & Con-		
					struction.	Marlow Regatta	
					Maintenance.		
				Staff		Management of	
				Annual Estimates.	Theatre and Entertainments		
				Annual Reports.			
				Reports to		Marlow Carnival	
				Committee &			
				Council Meetings.			

